

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

3644

IDS
C. Burns
07/10/03

In re Application of:

Group Art Unit: 3644

ALEXANDER VAN DER LELY ET AL

Examiner: Yvonne Renee Abbott

Serial No.: 10/073,023

Filed: February 12, 2002

For: A DEVICE FOR AND METHOD OF MONITORING ANIMALS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

JUL 08 2003

GROUP 3600

To the Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement which lists prior art that may be considered of interest in the examination of subject Application.

This Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search of the prior art has been conducted or that other material information as defined under 37 CFR §1.56(a) may not exist.

It is submitted, however, that this Statement complies with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.56, §1.97 and §1.98 and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, Section 609. If, for any reason, the Examiner to whom this Application is assigned for examination considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted so that any deficiencies can be corrected.

The following documents are submitted herewith:

07/03/2003 AOSMAN1 00000072 10073023

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180.00 OP

8553/251

1. International Application No. PCT/SE98/01305, filed July 2, 1998, of Hall et al, International Publication No. WO 99/01026, International Publication date January 14, 1999, for a method and apparatus for monitoring an animal. This International Patent Application is discussed on page 2 of the Substitute Specification submitted in this Application.

2. International Application No. PCT/IL99/00452, filed August 23, 1999, International Publication No. WO 00/13393, International Publication date March 9, 2001, of Bar-Shalom, is for a device and method for automatic identification of sound patterns made by animals, the device is for automatically identifying sound patterns accompanied by physiological processes and activities of an animal in general and, in particular, sounds uttered by an animal in distress. The device stores, analyzes, processes data relating to the identified sound patterns and deviations therefrom and provides an attendant with an alert signal and data according to pre-program requirements. An audio interface is provided for receiving animal sounds which is placed in the proximity of an animal or group of animals. In addition, a storage unit is provided which contains pre-programmed animal sound patterns connected to a controller and a communication interface. When animal sounds are received which closely match those which have been pre-stored, this is communicated to a remote unit.

3. International Patent Application No. PCT/NL00/00504, was filed July 18, 2000, published February 15, 2001, under International Publication No. WO 01/10197 A1, of Verburg, for a method of cooling animals. This International Patent Application is similar to U.S. Publication No. 2002/0124810 A1, publication date September 13, 2002, of Verburg et al.

4. International Patent Application No. PCT/DK00/00485, filed September 4, 2000, and published March 15, 2001, International Publication No. WO 01/17340 A1, of Larsen, is for a method for controlling breeding of free-range animals. The feed consumed by each individual

animal is uniquely identified and registered to enable a full traceability between the animals or products and the feed. In particular, there is an active and automatic control of the living conditions of animals based on the monitored and recorded data so that a minimum amount of human interaction is required in the normal operation of a breeding system controlled by use of the method. Also disclosed is a control system typically comprising a general-purpose computer having a suitable computer program installed therein for controlling the operation of a breeding system according to the method.

5. Netherlands Patent No. 1000883, which was published January 28, 1997, the name of the inventor being Peter Francis Dodé te Hants, discloses an apparatus which appears to be mounted on a gate or similar framework. Although the document is in the Dutch language, it is discussed on page 2 of the Substitute Specification which has been submitted herewith.

6. European Patent Application No. EP 0 988 786 A2, of Schauer Herbert, dated September 22, 1999, appears to be in the German language. However, it is discussed on page 3 of the Substitute Specification submitted herewith.

7. XP-002176510, of Malyshev et al, BUL. 30, August 15, 1987, SU1,329,719, relates to stress assessment in animals made more accurate by isolating the lymphocyte fraction from peripheral blood and measuring their electrophoretic mobility. This is discussed in the Substitute Specification submitted herewith in the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3.

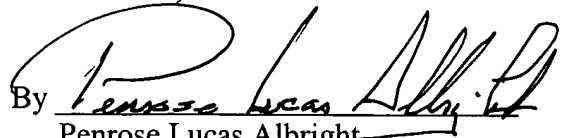
It will be noted that the Netherlands patent and the European Patent Application are in languages other than English. Accordingly, if translations are desired, they will be provided.

Our check in the amount of \$180.00 is provided herewith for submission of an Information Disclosure Statement in view of 37 CFR §1.17(p). However, if this is in error, the

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is authorized to credit or debit our Account No. 13-2000 as appropriate.

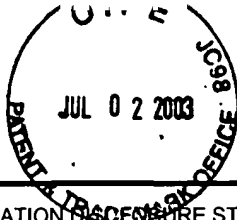
Respectfully submitted,

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BASED ON FORM PTO-1449ATTY. DOCKET NO. **8553/251**SERIAL NO. **10/073,023****LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT**
(Use several sheets if necessary)APPLICANT: **Alexander van der Lely et al**FILING DATE: **02/12/02**GROUP: **3644****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT	DATE	NAME	CLASS/	FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE)
	AA					
	AB					
	AC					
	AD					
	AE					
	AF					
	AG					
	AH					
	AI					
	AJ					
	AK					

RECEIVED
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GROUP 3600**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	AL	PCT/SE98/01305 WO 99/01026	07/02/98	International—Hall et al			
	AM	PCT/IL99/00452 WO 00/13393	08/23/99	International—Bar-Shalom			
	AN	PCT/NL00/00504 WO 01/10197 A1	07/18/00	International—Verburg			
	AO	PCT/DK00/00485 WO 01/17340 A1	09/04/00	International—Larsen			
	AP	1000883	01/28/97	Netherlands—Dode te Hants			X
		EPO988786A2	09/22/99	Europe—Herbert			X
		XP-002176510	08/15/87	Malyshev et al			